

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A data communication system comprising:

first terminal devices for transmitting first contents and IDs of information providers providing said first contents;

a server device for receiving said first contents and the information provider IDs from said first terminal devices and for storing the received first contents and information provider IDs onto storing means; and

second terminal devices which display on displaying means information provider information including at least said first contents and said information provider IDs transmitted from said server device; which allow users to select desired items of said information provider information displayed on said displaying means; and which transmit to said server device information provider IDs corresponding to the user-selected items of said information provider information, along with user IDs of said users;

wherein said server device transmits to said first terminal devices request data corresponding to the information provider IDs sent from said second terminal devices;

wherein said first terminal devices transmit second

contents corresponding to said request data to said server device; and

wherein said server device transmits said second contents to the second terminal devices corresponding to said user IDs.

2. A data communication system according to claim 1, wherein said server device comprises counting means for counting the number of times each of said information provider IDs has been transmitted from said second terminal devices.

3. A data communication system according to claim 2, wherein said server device comprises linking means for linking to a publicly accessible website the information provider information corresponding to the information provider IDs of which the transmission count each has exceeded a threshold value.

4. A data communication system according to claim 3, wherein said publicly accessible website, under management by said server device, has any of lyric data, melody data and performance data produced and uploaded thereto by the information providers corresponding to said information provider IDs.

5. A data communication system according to claim 4, wherein said second terminal devices transmit to said

server device the information provider IDs corresponding to the data selected by users from among a lyric data group, a melody data group and a performance data group produced by said information providers posted at said publicly accessible website on said displaying means, along with user IDs of said users; and

wherein said counting means of said server device counts the number of times each of said information provider IDs has been transmitted from said second terminal devices.

6. A data communication system according to claim 5, wherein said server device comprises content production request fee setting means for setting fees to be paid to each of said information providers for producing a commissioned content in accordance with the transmission count of each information provider counted by said counting means; and

wherein said server device transmits request data including the content production request fees to the first terminal devices corresponding to the information provider IDs transmitted by said second terminal devices.

7. A data communication system according to claim 6, wherein said content production request fee setting means of said server device sets higher content

production request fees for information providers the higher the ID transmission count thereof counted by said counting means.

8. A data communication system according to claim 4, wherein said second terminal devices transmit to said server device a plurality of information provider IDs selected by users based on the lyric data, melody data and performance data produced by said information providers posted at said publicly accessible website, along with user IDs of said users;

wherein said server device transmits request data to a plurality of first terminal devices corresponding to said plurality of information provider IDs sent from said second terminal devices;

wherein said plurality of first terminal devices transmit to said server device music data as said second contents produced by the information providers corresponding to said plurality of first terminal devices; and

wherein said server device transmits said music data received from said first terminal devices to said second terminal devices corresponding to said user IDs.

9. A data communication system according to claim 3, wherein said publicly accessible website, under

management by said server device, has music data produced and uploaded thereto by the information providers corresponding to said information provider IDs.

10. A data communication system according to claim 9, wherein said second terminal devices transmit to said sever device the information provider IDs corresponding to the music data selected by users from among a music data group produced by said information providers posted at said publicly accessible website, together with user IDs of said users; and

wherein said counting means of said server device counts the number of times each of said information provider IDs has been transmitted from said second terminal devices.

11. A data communication system according to claim 9, wherein said first terminal devices transmit to said server device more music data produced as said second contents on the basis of said request data.

12. A data communication system according to claim 8, wherein said server device transmits confirmation data to said first terminal devices corresponding to the information provider IDs sent from said second terminal devices, said confirmation data asking the information providers at said first terminal devices whether they

agree to the request from said second terminal devices, said server device transmitting agreement data to said second terminal devices if said information providers at said first terminal devices have agreed to said request from said second terminal devices; and

wherein said second terminal devices, in response to said agreement data, transmit formal content production request data to said first terminal devices via said server device.

13. A data communication system according to claim 1, wherein said server device transmits demand data to said first terminal devices if said second contents are not received from said first terminal devices upon elapse of a predetermined time period.

14. A data communication system according to claim 8, wherein said second terminal devices transmit to said server device modification request data requesting modification of music data, along with the information provider IDs corresponding to the information providers who produced the music data in question, as well as user IDs of the requesting users;

wherein said server device transmits said modification request data from said second terminal devices to said first terminal devices corresponding to

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said information provider IDs;

wherein said first terminal devices, in response to said modification request data, return modified music data to said server device; and

wherein said server device transmits said modified music data returned from said first terminal devices to said second terminal devices corresponding to said user IDs.

15. A data communication system according to claim 6, wherein said first terminal devices transmit to said server device information provider bank account identification data for identifying the bank accounts of said information providers;

wherein said second terminal devices transmit to said server device user bank account identification data for identifying the bank accounts of said users; and

wherein said server device, based on said content production request fees, establishes amounts to be transferred to the bank accounts identified by said information provider bank account identification data, and amounts to be withdrawn from the bank accounts identified by said user bank account identification data, said server device further transmitting the established amounts together with the bank account identification

data associated therewith to an external charge server.

16. A server device comprising:

communicating means for communicating with first terminal devices of information providers providing first contents, and with second terminal devices of users requesting said information providers to produce second contents;

storing means for storing said first contents and IDs of said information providers transmitted from said first terminal devices; and

controlling means for causing said communicating means:

to transmit to said second terminal devices information provider information including said first contents and the information provider IDs received from said first terminal devices;

to receive information provider IDs selected by users of said second terminal devices along with user IDs of said users;

to transmit request data to the first terminal devices corresponding to the selected information provider IDs;

to receive from said first terminal devices more second contents corresponding to said request data; and

to transmit said second contents to the second terminal devices corresponding to said user IDs.

17. A server device according to claim 16, further comprising counting means for counting the number of times each of said information provider IDs has been transmitted from said second terminal devices.

18. A server device according to claim 17, further comprising linking means for linking to a publicly accessible website the information provider information corresponding to the information provider IDs of which the transmission count each has exceeded a threshold value.

19. A server device according to claim 18, wherein said publicly accessible website, under management by said controlling means, has any of lyric data, melody data and performance data produced and uploaded thereto by the information providers corresponding to said information provider IDs.

20. A server device according to claim 19, wherein said controlling means causes said communication means to receive the information provider IDs corresponding to the data selected by users at said second terminal devices from among a lyric data group, a melody data group and a performance data group produced by said information

providers posted at said publicly accessible website,
along with user IDs of said users; and

wherein said counting means counts the number of
times each of said information provider IDs has been
transmitted from said second terminal devices.

21. A server device according to claim 20, further
comprising content production request fee setting means
for setting fees to be paid to each of said information
providers for producing a commissioned content in
accordance with the transmission count of each
information provider counted by said counting means;

wherein said controlling means causes said
communicating means to transmit request data including
the content production request fees to the first terminal
devices corresponding to the information provider IDs
transmitted by said second terminal devices.

22. A server device according to claim 21, wherein
said content production request fee setting means sets
higher content production request fees for information
providers the higher the ID transmission count thereof
counted by said counting means.

23. A server device according to claim 19, wherein
said controlling means causes said communicating means:
to receive from said second terminal devices a

plurality of information provider IDs selected by users based on the lyric data, melody data and performance data produced by said information providers posted at said publicly accessible website, along with user IDs of said users;

to transmit request data to a plurality of first terminal devices corresponding to said plurality of information provider IDs sent from said second terminal devices;

to receive from said first terminal devices music data as said second contents produced by a plurality of information providers corresponding to said plurality of first terminal devices; and

to transmit said music data that came from said first terminal devices to said second terminal devices corresponding to said user IDs.

24. A server device according to claim 18, wherein said publicly accessible website, under management by said controlling means, has music data produced and uploaded thereto by the information providers corresponding to said information provider IDs.

25. A server device according to claim 24, wherein said controlling means causes said communicating means to receive at said second terminal devices the information

provider IDs corresponding to the music data selected by users from among a music data group produced by said information providers posted at said publicly accessible website, together with user IDs of said users; and

wherein said counting means counts the number of times each of said information provider IDs has been transmitted from said second terminal devices.

26. A server device according to claim 24, wherein said controlling means causes said communicating means to receive from said first terminal devices more music data produced as said second contents on the basis of said request data.

27. A server device according to claim 23, wherein said controlling means causes said communicating means:

to transmit confirmation data to said first terminal devices corresponding to the information provider IDs sent from said second terminal devices, said confirmation data asking the information providers at said first terminal devices whether they agree to the request from said second terminal devices, said communicating means further transmitting agreement data to said second terminal devices if said information providers at said first terminal devices have agreed to said request from said second terminal devices; and

to transmit, in response to said agreement data, formal content production request data coming from said second terminal devices to said first terminal devices.

28. A server device according to claim 16, wherein said controlling means causes said communicating means to transmit demand data to said first terminal devices if said second contents are not received from said first terminal devices upon elapse of a predetermined time period.

29. A server device according to claim 23, wherein said controlling means causes said communicating means:

to receive from said second terminal devices modification request data requesting modification of music data, along with the information provider IDs corresponding to the information providers who produced the music data in question, as well as user IDs of the requesting users;

to transmit said modification request data from said second terminal devices to said first terminal devices corresponding to said information provider IDs;

to receive modified music data returned from said first terminal devices in response to said modification request data; and

to transmit said modified music data returned from

said first terminal devices to said second terminal devices corresponding to said user IDs.

30. A server device according to claim 21, wherein said controlling means causes said communicating means:

to receive from said first terminal devices information provider bank account identification data for identifying the bank accounts of said information providers;

to receive from said second terminal devices user bank account identification data for identifying the bank accounts of said users; and

to establish, based on said content production request fees, amounts to be transferred to the bank accounts identified by said information provider bank account identification data, and amounts to be withdrawn from the bank accounts identified by said user bank account identification data, said communicating means further transmitting the established amounts together with the bank account identification data associated therewith to an external charge server.

31. An information processing terminal device comprising:

storing means for storing first contents and information provider IDs;

communicating means for transmitting said first contents and said information provider IDs from said storing means to a server device; and

controlling means for causing said communicating means:

to receive via said server device request data from other information processing terminal devices identified by information provider IDs sent from said other information processing terminal devices; and

to transmit to said server device second contents corresponding to said request data.

32. An information processing terminal device according to claim 31, wherein said server device manages a publicly accessible website that has any of lyric data, melody data and performance data produced and uploaded thereto by the information providers corresponding to said information provider IDs; and

wherein said controlling means causes said communicating means to receive said request data from said other information processing terminal devices via said server device based on the information provider IDs selected by users at said other information processing terminal devices upon browsing the uploaded data at the website.

33. An information processing terminal device according to claim 32, wherein said controlling means causes said communicating means:

to receive from said other information processing terminal devices said request data based on a plurality of information provider IDs selected by said user based on the lyric data, melody data and performance data produced by said information providers posted at said publicly accessible website; and

to transmit to said server device music data as said second contents produced by said plurality of information providers corresponding to said request data.

34. An information processing terminal device according to claim 31, wherein said publicly accessible website, under management by said server device, has music data produced and uploaded thereto by the information providers corresponding to said information provider IDs; and

wherein said controlling means causes said communicating means to receive via said server device said request data from said other information processing terminal devices in accordance with the information provider IDs selected by the users at said other information processing terminal devices based on the

uploaded music data.

35. An information processing terminal device according to claim 34, wherein said controlling means causes said communicating means to transmit to said server device more music data produced as said second contents on the basis of said request data.

36. An information processing terminal device according to claim 33, wherein said controlling means causes said communicating means:

to receive from any of said other information processing terminal devices confirmation data asking the information provider at said other information processing terminal device whether said information provider agrees to the request from the other information processing terminal device;

to transmit agreement data to said other information processing terminal device via said server device in the event of an affirmative response to said confirmation data by said information provider; and

to receive via said server device formal content production request data from said other information processing terminal device from which said agreement data have been received.

37. An information processing terminal device

according to claim 33, wherein said controlling means causes said communicating means:

to receive from said server device modification request data requesting modification of music data sent from any of said other information processing terminal devices, said modification request data being identified by an information provider ID; and

to return modified music data to said server device in accordance with said modification request data.

38. An information processing terminal device according to claim 31, wherein said controlling means causes said communicating means to transmit to said server device information provider bank account identification data for identifying the bank accounts of said information providers.

39. An information processing terminal device comprising:

displaying means for displaying information provider information sent from a server device, said information provider information including at least first contents and IDs of information providers providing said first contents;

selecting means for allowing users to select at least one item of said information provider information

displayed on said displaying means;
communicating means for transmitting to said server device request data including information provider IDs corresponding to the items of said information provider information which are selected by users through said selecting means, along with user IDs of said users; and controlling means for causing said communicating means to receive from said server device second contents corresponding to said request data.

40. An information processing terminal device according to claim 39, wherein said server device manages a publicly accessible website that has any of lyric data, melody data and performance data produced and uploaded thereto by the information providers corresponding to said information provider IDs.

41. An information processing terminal device according to claim 40, wherein said controlling means causes said communicating means to transmit to said server device the information provider IDs corresponding to the data selected by users from among a lyric data group, a melody data group and a performance data group produced by said information providers posted at said publicly accessible website displayed on said displaying means, together with user IDs of said users.

42. An information processing terminal device according to claim 41, wherein said controlling means causes said communicating means:

to transmit to said server device a plurality of information provider IDs selected by users based on the lyric data, melody data and performance data produced by said information providers posted at said publicly accessible website, along with user IDs of said users; and

to receive from said server device the music data produced by a plurality of information providers corresponding to said plurality of information provider IDs.

43. An information processing terminal device according to claim 39, wherein said publicly accessible website, under management by said server device, has music data produced and uploaded thereto by the information providers corresponding to said information provider IDs.

44. An information processing terminal device according to claim 43, wherein said controlling means causes said communicating means to transmit to said server device the information provider IDs corresponding to the music data selected by users from among a music

data group produced by said information providers posted at said publicly accessible website displayed on said displaying means, together with user IDs of said users.

45. An information processing terminal device according to claim 44, wherein said controlling means causes said communicating means to receive via said server device more music data produced as said second contents on the basis of said request data.

46. An information processing terminal device according to claim 39, wherein said controlling means causes said communicating means:

to transmit via said server device confirmation data to any other information processing terminal device corresponding to an information provider ID, asking the information provider identified by the ID whether or not to agree to produce said second contents as requested;

to receive agreement data from said other information processing terminal device via said server device in the event of an affirmative response to said confirmation data by said information provider; and

to transmit via said server device formal content production request data to said other information processing terminal in accordance with said agreement data.

47. An information processing terminal device according to claim 42, wherein said controlling means causes said communicating means:

to transmit to said server device modification request data requesting modification of music data to any other information processing terminal device corresponding to the information provider who produced said music, along with the information provider ID of said information provider and the user ID of the requesting user; and

to receive via said server device modified music data returned from said other information processing terminal device corresponding to said information provider ID.

48. An information processing terminal device according to claim 39, wherein said controlling means causes said communicating means to transmit to said server device user bank account identification data for identifying the bank accounts of said users.

49. A data communication method for use with a data communication system including first terminal devices, a server device, and second terminal devices, said data communication method comprising the steps of:

allowing said first terminal devices to transmit to

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said server device first contents and IDs of information providers providing said first contents;

allowing said second terminal devices to display information provider information including at least said first contents and the information provider IDs transmitted from said server device;

allowing said second terminal devices to transmit to said server device information provider IDs corresponding to items of said information provider information which are selected by users, together with user IDs of said users;

allowing said server device to transmit to said first terminal devices request data corresponding to the information provider IDs sent from said second terminal devices;

allowing said first terminal devices to transmit second contents corresponding to said request data to said server device; and

allowing said server device to transmit said second contents to the second terminal devices corresponding to said user IDs.

50. A data communication method for use with a data communication system including first terminal devices and second terminal devices, said data

communication method comprising the steps of:

transmitting to said second terminal devices information provider information including first contents and IDs of information providers providing said first contents upon receipt of the information from said first terminal devices;

receiving information provider IDs selected by users of said second terminal devices along with user IDs of said users;

transmitting request data to the first terminal devices corresponding to the selected information provider IDs;

receiving from said first terminal devices second contents corresponding to said request data; and

transmitting said second contents to the second terminal devices corresponding to said user IDs.

51. A data communication method for use with an information processing terminal device, said data communication method comprising the steps of:

transmitting to a server device first contents and IDs of information providers providing said first contents;

receiving via said server device request data from other information processing terminal devices identified

by the information provider IDs sent from said other information processing terminal devices; and

transmitting to said server device second contents corresponding to said request data.

52. A data communication method for use with an information processing terminal device, said data communication method comprising the steps of:

displaying information provider information sent from a server device, said information provider information including at least first contents and IDs of information providers providing said first contents;

allowing users to select at least one item of the displayed information provider information;

transmitting to said server device request data including information provider IDs corresponding to the items of said information provider information which are selected by users, along with user IDs of said users; and

receiving from said server device second contents corresponding to said request data.

53. A storage medium which stores a computer-controllable data communication program for use with a data communication system including first terminal devices and second terminal devices, said data communication program comprising the steps of:

transmitting to said second terminal devices information provider information including first contents and IDs of information providers providing said first contents upon receipt of the information from said first terminal devices;

receiving information provider IDs selected by users of said second terminal devices along with user IDs of said users;

transmitting request data to the first terminal devices corresponding to the selected information provider IDs;

receiving from said first terminal devices second contents corresponding to said request data; and

transmitting said second contents to the second terminal devices corresponding to said user IDs.

54. A storage medium which stores a computer-controllable data communication program for use with an information processing terminal device, said data communication program comprising the steps of:

transmitting to a server device first contents and IDs of information providers providing said first contents;

receiving via said server device request data from other information processing terminal devices identified

by the information provider IDs sent from said other information processing terminal devices; and

transmitting to said server device second contents corresponding to said request data.

55. A storage medium which stores a computer-controllable data communication program for use with an information processing terminal device, said data communication program comprising the steps of:

displaying information provider information sent from a server device, said information provider information including at least first contents and IDs of information providers providing said first contents;

allowing users to select at least one item of the displayed information provider information;

transmitting to said server device request data including information provider IDs corresponding to the items of said information provider information which are selected by users, along with user IDs of said users; and

receiving from said server device second contents corresponding to said request data.